GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1303
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2015
Quality of Research
Ering Shri Ninong

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the country's position globally in terms of the quality of scientific research;
(b) whether the country's position in the quality of scientific research is declining;
(c) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto; and
(d) the measures being taken by the Government to improve the country's position in scientific research?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) & (b) According to the latest statistics available with the Department of Science and Technology, in 2013 India ranked sixth in the number of total annual research papers published and contributed 4.36% of the global research output. India is amongst the top five nation in the world in terms of scientific publications in nano science and technology (3rd position). The highly regarded science watch group Thomson Reuters predicts that "India's research productivity will be on par with most G8 nations within seven to eight years".

(c) & (d) The Government has been providing various incentives for sustaining growth of scientific research in the country. These incentives include successive increase in plan allocations for Scientific Departments, setting up of new institutions for science education and research, creation of centres of excellence for research and faculties in emerging and frontline S&T areas in academic and national institutes, establishment of new and attractive fellowships for both research students and scientists, attractive pay package to scientists as per 6th pay commission, recent substantial revision of fellowships for research students, strengthening infrastructure for Research and Development (R&E) in universities, encouraging public-private R&D partnerships, recognition of R&D units and fiscal incentives and support measures for R&D in industries etc.

Ministry of Human Resource Development has set up Research Parks in IIT Madras, Bombay and Kharagpur. Besides this 30 Centres of Excellence have been set up under the World Bank aided project of Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme in 27 project institutions. 36 Centres of Excellence have been set up under the Scheme of Training and Research in Frontier Areas of Science & Technology. All these centres are engaged in research in emerging areas of science & technology. IMPRINT or IMPacting Research Innovation & technology is a PAN-IIT and IISc joint Initiative to develop a roadmap for Research to solve major engineering and technology challenges in ten technology domains as engineering challenges relevant to India.

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